





After
that,



A man and a woman are performing on a stage. The man is on the left, wearing a dark shirt, and the woman is on the right, wearing a dark dress and holding a microphone. They are both looking towards the audience. The background is dark with some stage lights visible.

we narrowly
lost the contest
finale.



A group of people are shown from the chest up, looking towards the left. The person in the foreground has long, light-colored hair. The person next to them has short, dark hair and is looking intently. The person on the right is wearing a light-colored jacket.

I didn't
expect us to
lose, either.

I didn't
think we'd
win, but,




A man is moving out of a house. He is carrying a large box and is walking towards the entrance. A woman is standing in the doorway, looking at him. The house has a modern design with large windows and a glass door.

Several
days later,
Akihiko suddenly
moved out
from my
house.

It was
disheartening.

Still,
a lot of people
reached out
to us.

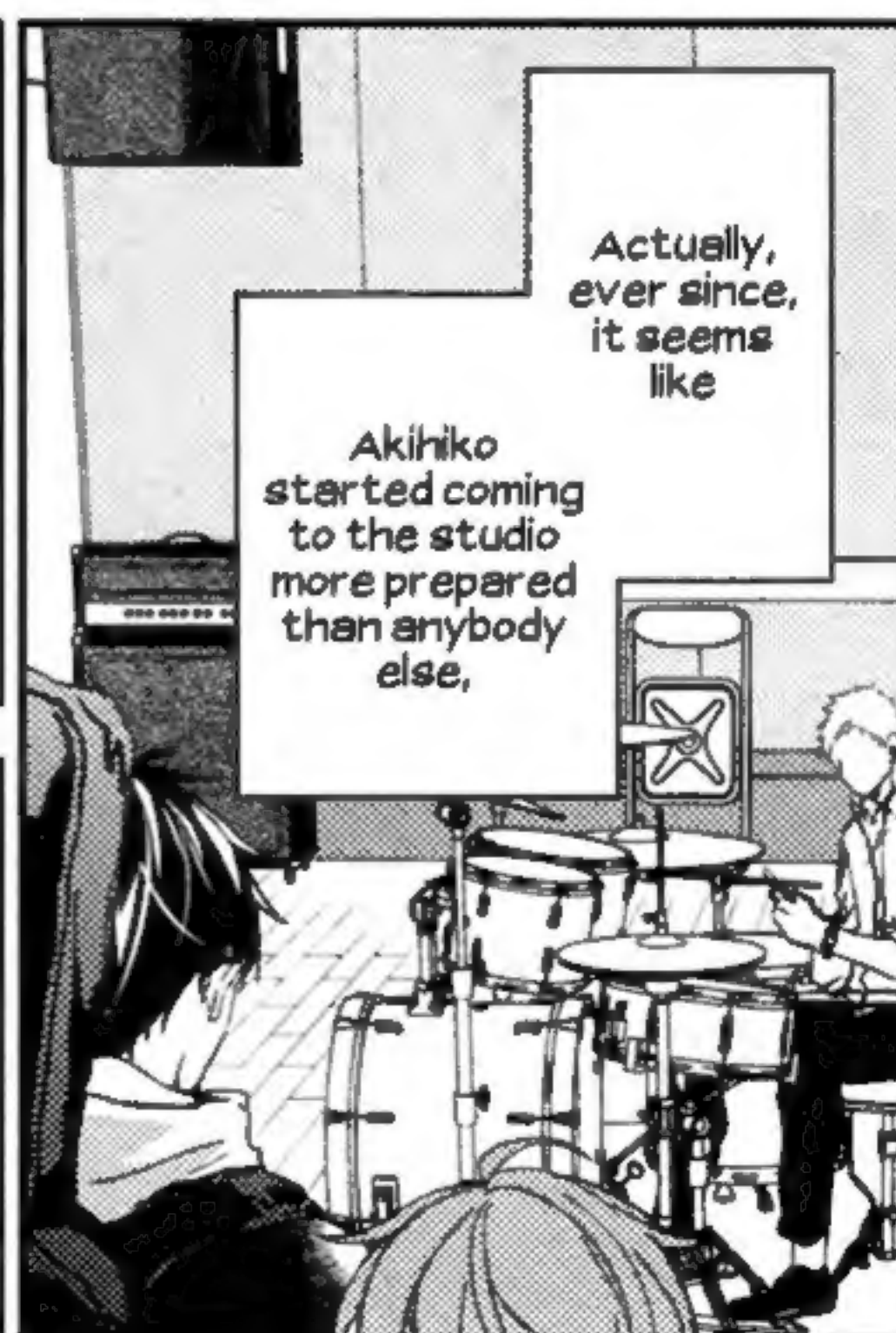


Three people are shown from the chest up, looking towards the left. The person on the left has short, dark hair and is wearing a plaid shirt. The person in the middle has long, light-colored hair and is wearing a light-colored jacket. The person on the right has short, dark hair and is wearing a light-colored shirt.



I could tell that something had changed in him.

From his reply,







And then,
spring rolled
around.

entered
a violin
contest.


Akihiko,

I had
no idea
whatsoever
about the
competition.

Until Mafuyu
suddenly
dragged me
out,

Somewhere
in my heart,






I'd assumed
that Akihiko did
not possess such
raw passion...

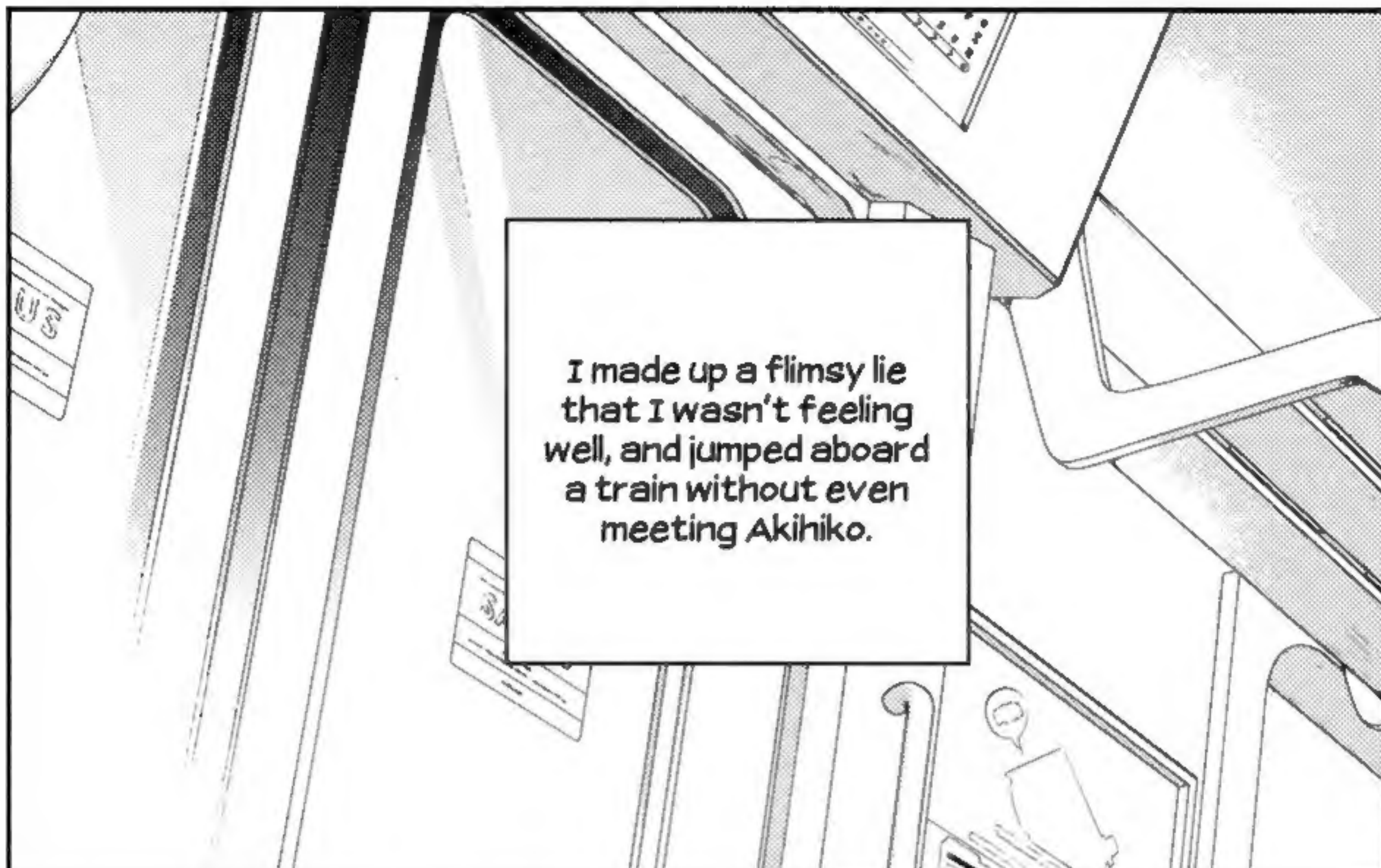


Almost
instantly,
I felt
terrified.



.....HUH?

KAJI AKIHIKO
IS SOMEONE
LIKE THIS...



I made up a flimsy lie
that I wasn't feeling
well, and jumped aboard
a train without even
meeting Akihiko.



the day of the
live, the fact
that "Murata
Ugetsu" had
come to watch,

I knew
about.



Truth is,



(CLATTER
CLATTER)

I don't
know what
happened
next.

But,



I also knew
who it was that
Akihiko chased
after,

when he said,
"I'll come back
right away".



And...
who it is
that Akihiko
had told me

he likes.



The
feelings
of love for
Akihiko
smoulder,

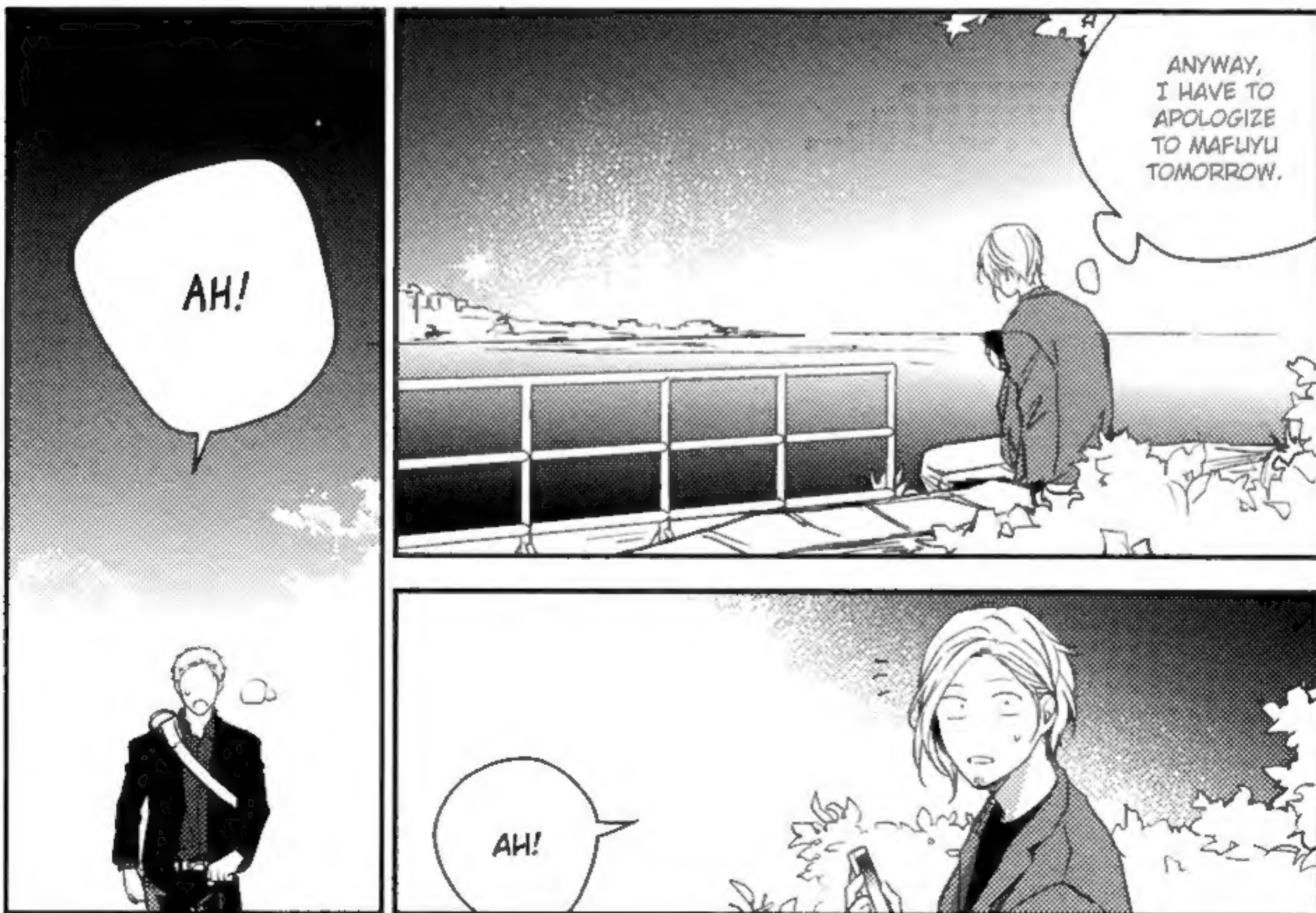


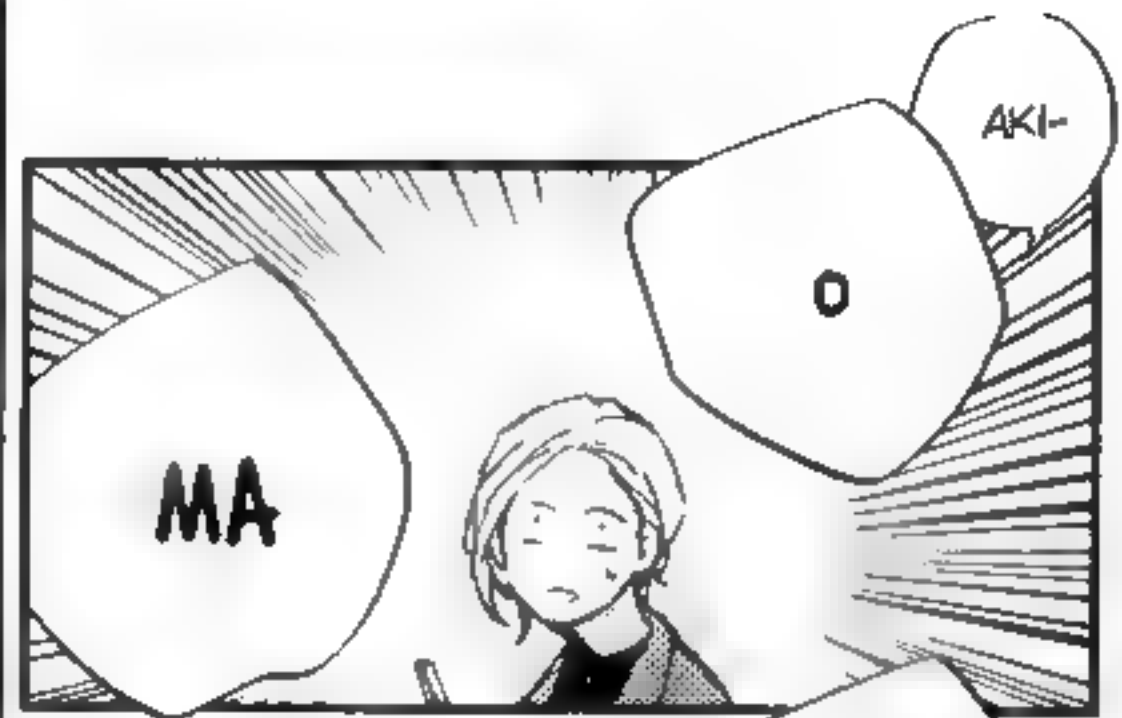
As for "who"
changed him,
I guessed that
a while ago.



Akihiko
changed
after that.

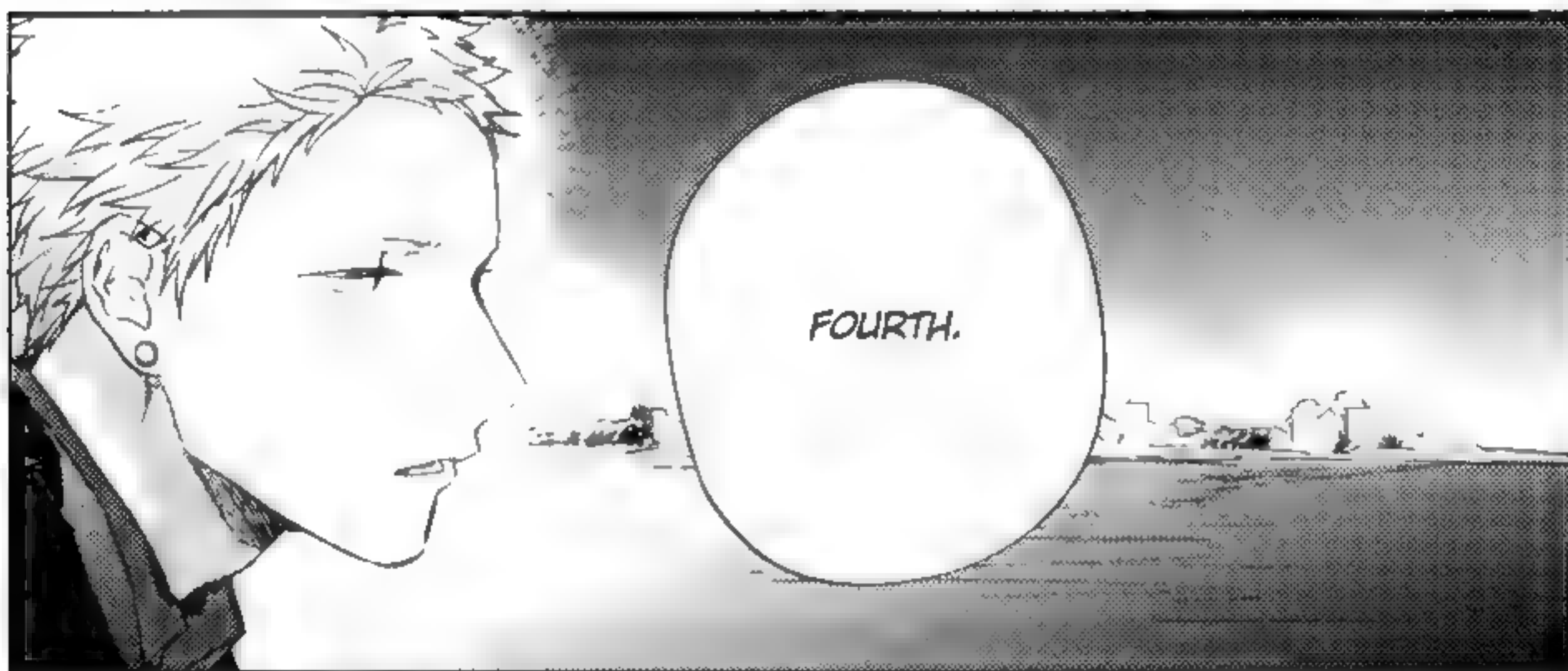
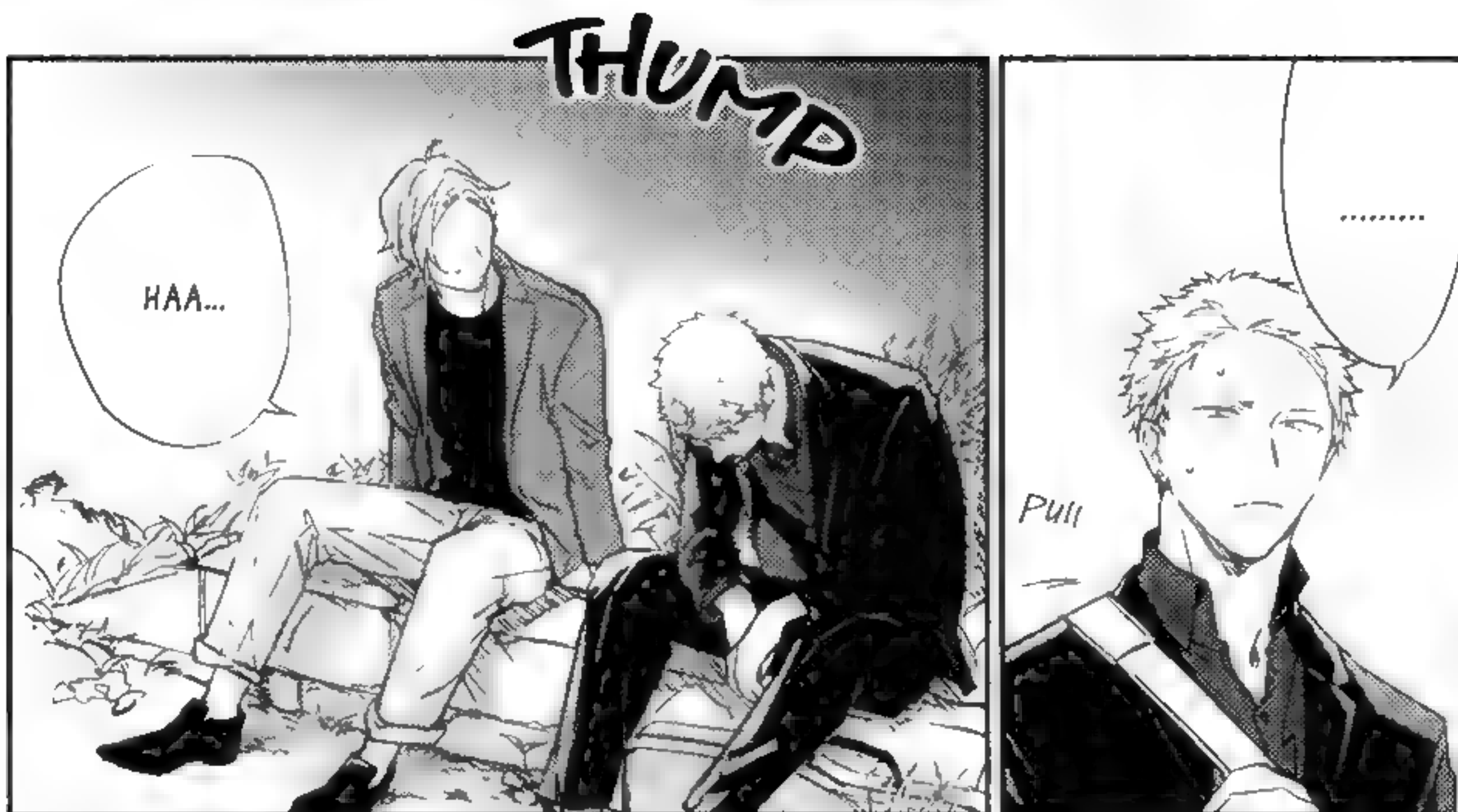






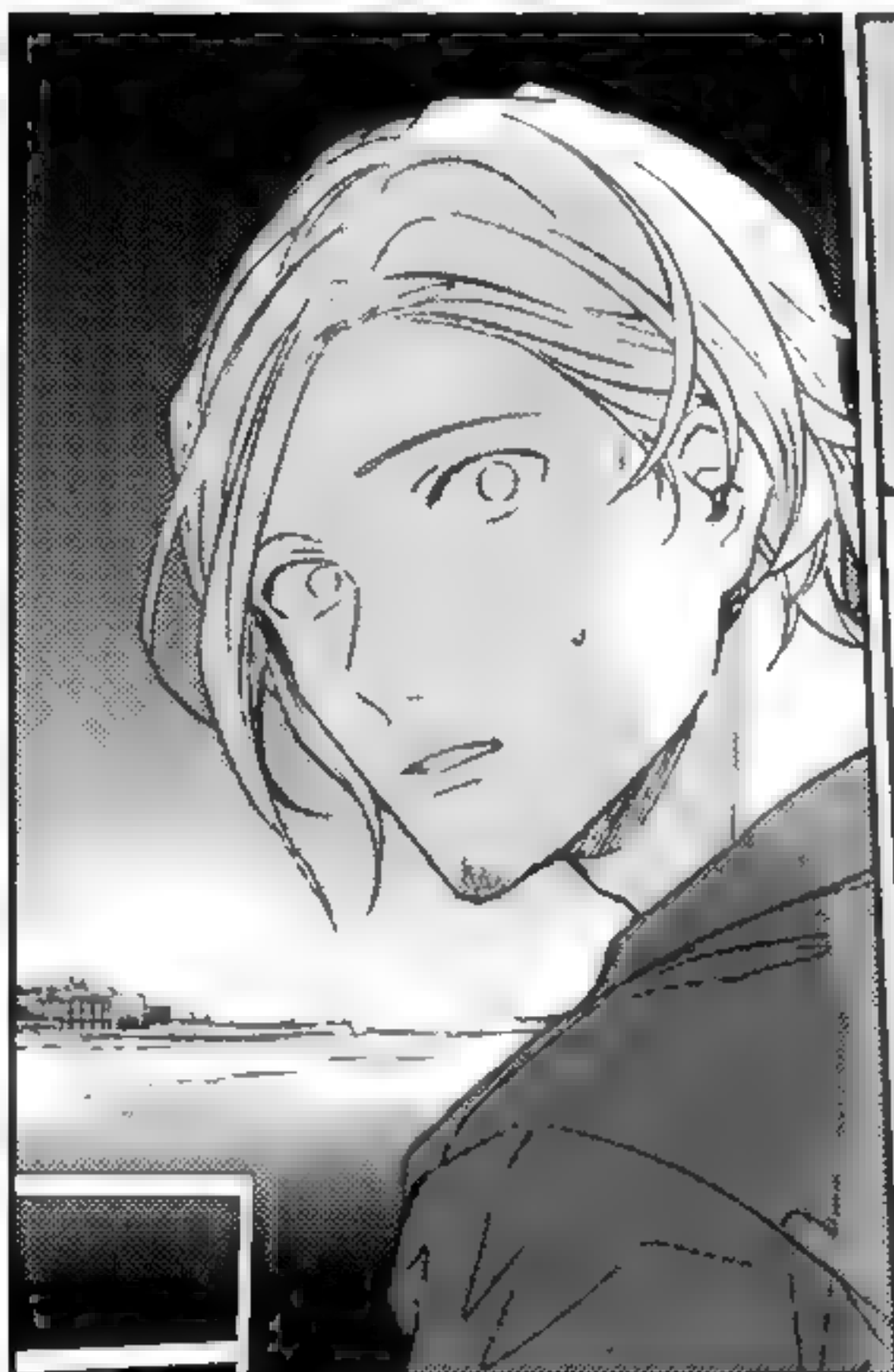
T/N: "OMAE" MEANS "YOU" (INFORMAL/RUDE)







THANK
YOU.



UGETSU,

—THE GUY I
WAS IN LOVE WITH,
WE BROKE UP.

*T/N: HE LOWERED HIS HEAD TO HIS PARENTS.



.....THAT WAS BECAUSE
I GOT IN TOUCH WITH
MY PARENTS AND
BEGGED* THEM FOR
MONEY.

EH, BUT...
YOU MOVED OUT
DETERMINEDLY,
ALL OF A
SUDDEN.

HUH?



HOW FAR I
CAN GO.

I WANTED TO
TRY AND SEE
FOR MYSELF

Then, why?

THAT WAS.....
UGH.

...AND YOU
IMMEDIATELY
THREW YOURSELF
INTO VIOLIN
PRACTICE...

.....BECAUSE
I'VE ALWAYS BEEN
RUNNING AWAY
UNTIL NOW.....



YOU
SUDDENLY
BECAME
WITHDRAWN!

THAT'S...?!

**ARGH
SHUT UP
DAMMIT!!**

BEFORE
I KNEW IT,
YOU'D CHANGED
A LOT!

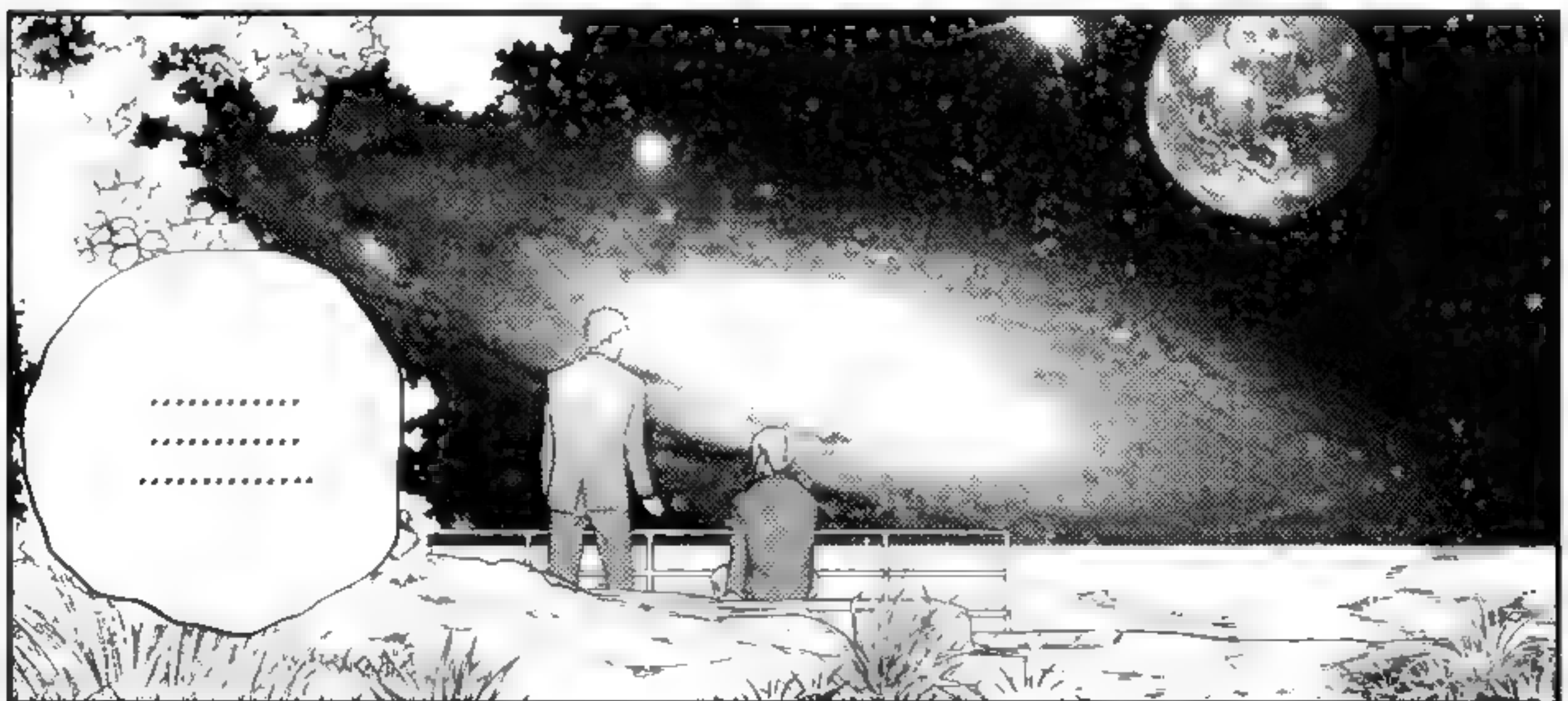


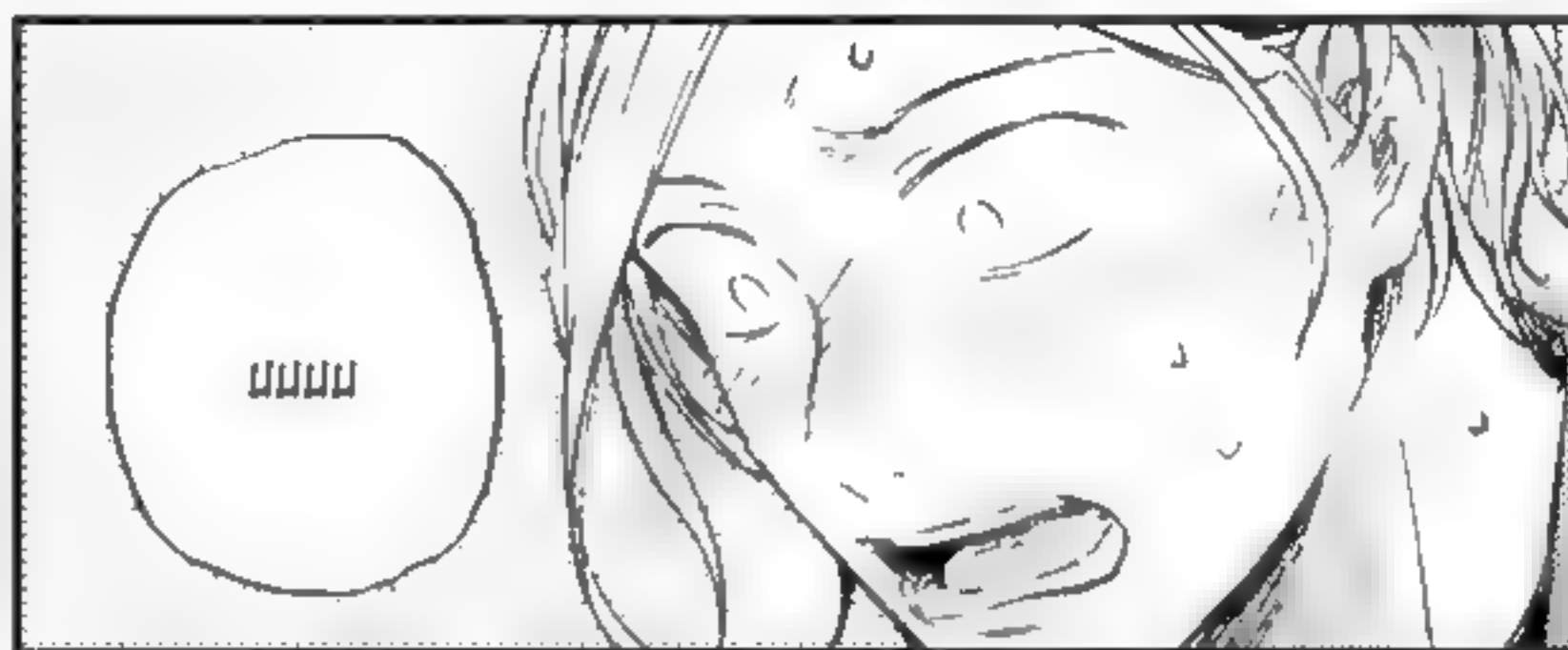
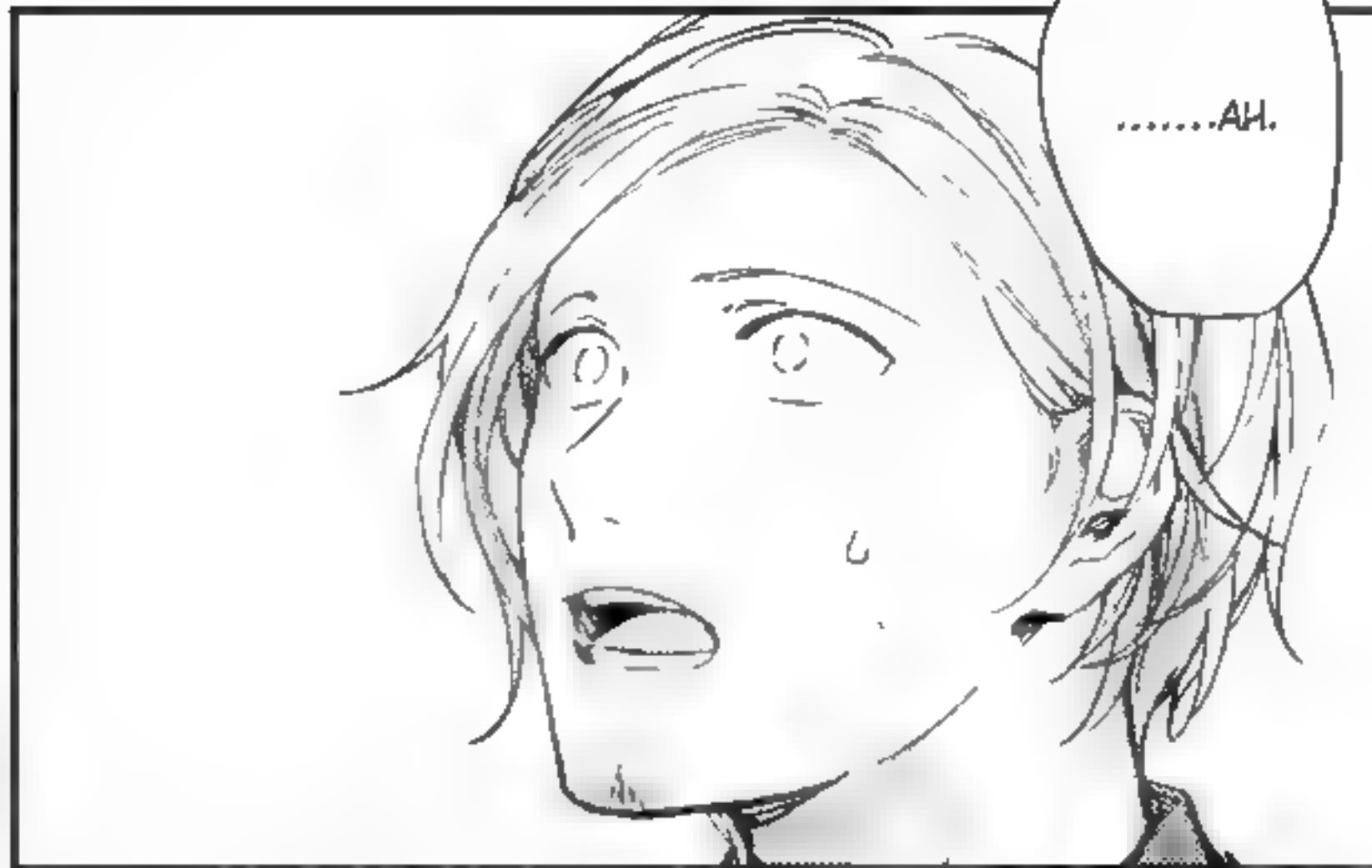
**I
CHANGED**

**THE
WAY I
LIVED**

**BECAUSE
I WANTED
TO BE A
MAN YOU
DESERVE!!**









why.





why are your
fingers trembling,
just why?



why.

.....YEAH.



I LOVE YOU.

*PLEASE
GO OUT
WITH ME.*

Even though
I did not want
to get hurt
again.






SHIT...
I RUSHED...



I'M
PATHETIC,

I'M
UNFAIR,

I'M A
TOTAL BRAT.



OR IF UENOYAMA
WILL BE ANGRY...

I DON'T EVEN
KNOW IF
I'LL HURT
YOU AGAIN,





HUH?

.....THAT'S
ENOUGH,
I GET IT.

SO, WILL
YOU GIVE ME
ANOTHER
CHAN-



IT'S ALRIGHT.



Mafuyu's
songs are
like magic.



...FOR
REAL?

HAA..
FOR
REAL.



AH.....

It makes me
feel like...

I want to try
falling in love
once more.



An ordinary
love story,

AKIHIKO,



in a certain
ordinary spring.

To be continued...

GIVEN

KIZU NATSUKI

Vol 5

Chapter 28

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Dusting, Levelling: Skyler
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